



## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

### Toxic Injury Awareness, Education and Prevention Month

**WHEREAS**, people of all ages throughout the world have developed toxic injury, illnesses, and disabilities from toxic exposures; and

**WHEREAS**, toxic injury is often characterized by medical intolerance to very small amounts of air pollution, petrochemicals, mold and other toxins found in homes, schools, work places, our everyday products and environment; and

**WHEREAS**, toxic injury can be caused by acute or chronic exposure to one or more chemicals, pesticides, and solvents; and

**WHEREAS**, toxic injury may include multiple, often disabling illnesses and can be life threatening; and

**WHEREAS**, toxic injury is a chronic debilitating condition causing serious financial, employment, learning, housing, health, social and other consequences; and

**WHEREAS**, the prevalence of these illnesses and the lack of knowledge and qualified doctors clearly warrant further education in this field for the public in general, future as well as practicing doctors, dentists, rescue personnel as well as other health care, social service, rehabilitation, housing, architects, HVAC designers and installers, building maintenance and cleaning personnel, supervisory persons at schools, work places and public facilities and pest control personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, "Applied Knowledge is Power" and that power can save precious lives; and


**WHEREAS**, there are diagnostic codes readily available for toxic effects of many chemicals found in our everyday environment and surroundings; and

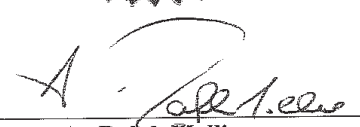
**WHEREAS**, those suffering with toxic injury deserve the same rights, acknowledgment, respect, support and help allotted to other illnesses and disabilities; and

**NOW THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, support increased awareness, education, understanding and research into the causes, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of toxic injury and do hereby officially designate May 2011 as Toxic Injury Awareness, Education and Prevention Month.



Given under my hand and the great  
seal of the State of Rhode Island  
and Providence Plantations,  
this 1<sup>ST</sup> day of May, 2011

  
Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

  
A. Ralph Mollis  
Secretary of State